

# *The Grace of Giving*

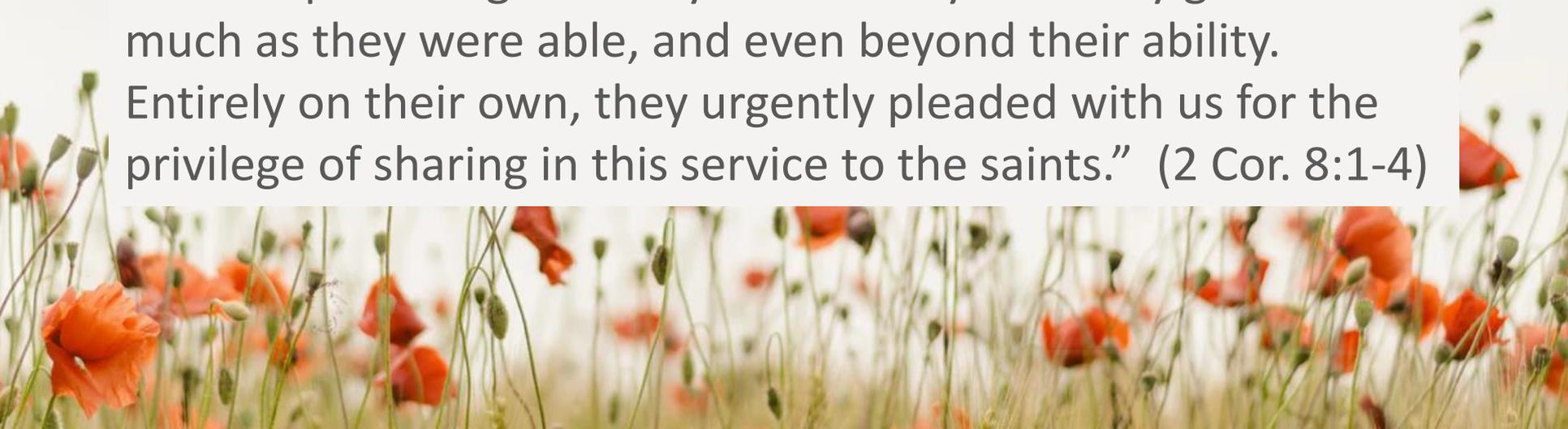


*Giving says so much...*

## ***“We love the Lord”***

*Giving declares our devotion to God*

“And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints.” (2 Cor. 8:1-4)



*Giving says so much...*

# ***“We love the Lord”***

*Giving declares our devotion to God*

**“they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God’s will.” (2 Cor. 8:5)**



*Giving says so much...*

# ***“We love the Gospel”***

*Giving declares our need for the gospel*

“I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.” (Philippians 4:18)



*Giving says so much...*

# ***“We love our spiritual family”***

*Giving declares our love for believers*

**“All the believers were one in heart and mind.** No one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but **they shared everything they had.** With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and much grace was upon them all. There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.

Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement), sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.” (Acts 4:32-37)

*Giving says so much...*

# *“We love our spiritual family”*

*Giving declares our love for believers*

“I am on my way to Jerusalem in the service of the saints there. For **Macedonia and Achaia** were pleased to make a contribution for the poor among **the saints in Jerusalem**. They were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have *shared* in the Jews' spiritual blessings, they owe it to the Jews to *share* with them their material blessings.” (Romans 15:25-27)



*Giving says so much...*

***“We want to be like Jesus”***

*Giving declares our desire to be like Jesus*



# *Giving... a law of creation*

*“Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly,  
and whoever sows generously will also reap generously.”*

*(2 Corinthians 9:6)*



# *Giving... a love of Jesus*

*“For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.” (2 Corinthians 8:9)*

